

Commonwealth of Kentucky

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

157 Bellemeade Drive
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
Home: (502) 223-1769



STATE CAPITOL ANNEX
702 Capital Avenue, Room 373
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
(502) 564-8100, Ext. 639
Derrick.Graham@lrc.ky.gov

Derrick Graham
House Minority Floor Leader
57th Legislative District
Franklin County

March 23, 2023

The Honorable James Comer
2410 Rayburn House Office Building
45 Independence Ave SW
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Support for Franklin County Farmdale Sanitation District Interceptor System

Dear Representative Comer:

I am writing in strong support of Franklin County's effort to secure funding for the Farmdale Sanitation District for construction of the Interceptor System which would eliminate six failing and overburdened package wastewater treatment plants and construct a system to convey wastewater to a pump station to direct the flow to the City of Frankfort for treatment. According to the Kentucky Division of Water (DOW) and the Franklin County Health Department, many of these plants have been issued multiple notices of violations for not meeting discharge limits and bypassing sewage straight to area waterways.

Not only would this project allow for the elimination of unsafe and unreliable systems which continually threaten the health and safety of residents and natural waterways, it would allow for future capture of other aging systems and ineffective private septic systems in the area and would make possible the extension of the system down the 127 Corridor for economic development. Franklin County is in great need of infrastructure to property for industrial and residential building. There is a very limited amount of land available for industrial development and an extreme housing shortage, both of which have not allowed the local economy to grow, despite interest in the area.

In conclusion, I fully support efforts by Franklin County as they seek to secure this funding and implement improved for the health, environmental, and economic benefit to the citizens of the Capital county and Central Kentucky. Thank you for your service and your assistance.

Sincerely,

Derrick W. Graham

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Derrick W. Graham". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "D" and "G".

Minority Floor Leader
State Representative, 57th District



Franklin County Fiscal Court

321 West Main Street
Frankfort, KY 40601

Michael Mueller
Franklin County Judge/Executive

March 21, 2023

The Honorable James Comer

2410 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Support for Franklin County Farmdale SD Interceptor Sewer System – Phase 1

Dear Congressman Comer:

I would like to thank your service, assistance and support you and your staff have given Franklin County through contact with the EPA for the Farmdale Sanitation District's goal for design of the Interceptor System to eliminate failing and overburdened package wastewater treatment plants and construct a system to convey wastewater to a pump station to direct the flow to the City of Frankfort for treatment. The promise for reliable service and protection of properties and our natural waterways seems possible because of the assistance we have received in the past. We would like to enlist your support to ask that the Farmdale Interceptor System be presented as an appropriation project through Congress.

Our efforts to correct the severe sanitary sewer problems in the Farmdale area now span nearly two decades. Franklin County formed the Farmdale Sanitation District in 2004 after recognizing the need for a solution for the aging, failing, and poorly maintained privately owned package plants that serve the area. In 2016 and 2017, the Sanitation District took ownership of six package plants. More than 1,000 households flow to the package plants which had been cited continually by the Franklin County Health Department and Ky Division of Water for not meeting discharge limits and bypassing sewage straight to area waterways. Since that time, the District, with the assistance of Franklin County Fiscal Court has implemented repairs and improvements to the collection systems in the subdivisions and negotiated through multiple options to come up with a design which will allow the Farmdale area to connect to a new pump station being constructed by the City of Frankfort to pump to their facility for treatment. Further, this project has the blessing of the Kentucky Division of Water.

The Farmdale Interceptor Project would enable connection by six initial package plants with the other three plants in the area to follow as well as households on private septic systems which are generally ineffective due to the soil conditions of the area. No longer will raw sewage be a threat to the health of residents and the pollution of properties, creeks, and streams.

Another benefit of the Interceptor Project would make possible the extension of the system down the 127 Corridor for economic development. Franklin County is in great need of infrastructure to property for industrial and residential building. There is an extremely limited amount of land available for industrial development and an extreme housing shortage, both of which has not allowed the local economy to grow, despite great interest in the area.

The estimate for the Farmdale SD Interceptor Sewer System Phase 1 is \$14,000,000 with a \$5,000,000 request for FY 2024. Although funding through grants and loans was always anticipated, the census statistics are skewed from a few large property owners in the area and does not reflect the income of the area as LMI, which it most certainly is. The amount needed for the project would push the rates to a point which residents could not afford. Franklin County Fiscal Court has worked with the District in the past, providing matching funds for federal grants, administrative and staff assistance, and worked closely with agencies such as the Kentucky Infrastructure Authority, Bluegrass Area Development District, the Kentucky Division of Water, and many others on the District's behalf. There are other areas of Franklin County which are not served at all by water and sewer services, and we are addressing those areas as well. We also recognize the need to match state funds for projects for Broadband connectivity and will continue to respond to those needs with assistance to multiple sectors for recovery. My goal while serving as a Magistrate for 4 years prior to becoming County Judge/Executive was and still is to make the Capital County an even better place to live and work.

Once again, thank you for your assistance in the past and we sincerely appreciate being considered for an appropriation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Mueller", written in a cursive style.

Michael Mueller
Franklin County Judge/Executive
Franklin County Fiscal Court



Franklin County Magistrate

248 River Valley Road
Frankfort, KY 40601

Sherry G. Sebastian
1st District Magistrate

March 23, 2023

The Honorable Jamie Comer
U. S. Congressman
First District, Kentucky
2410 Rayburn House Office Building
45 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington DC 20515

Dear Congressman Comer:

This letter is in support of the Farmdale Sanitation District's application for sanitary sewer infrastructure funds. In rural Franklin County, residents rely on individual septic systems or package waste water treatment plants for sewage disposal. As a Franklin County Magistrate with constituents in residential areas served by some of the nine package waste water treatment plants, I can attest to the health and safety concerns these aging package plants pose to my constituents. These plants suffer frequent outages due to outdated and failing equipment. When the operation of package plants is interrupted, raw sewage seeps into residential yards and can flow into waterways, exacerbating health and safety concerns while introducing environmental issues and potential disease transmission.

With approximately 1,100 households relying on these aging package plants, it is essential to address the issues immediately to maintain a standard quality of life of those families. Your support of this request is critical to those living in the southwestern portion of Franklin County. Thank you.

Sincerely,


Sherry G. Sebastian

Richard Tanner, Magistrate District Five
5320 Sleepy Hollow Dr.
Frankfort, KY 40601

The Honorable James Comer,
2410 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington DC 20515

The Honorable James Comer
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Farmdale Sanitation District is requesting your help in obtaining \$5,000,000 to assist in upgrading their sanitary sewer infrastructure system. The importance of this cannot be overstated. This will help do away with package plants and move toward using Frankfort's waste water treatment plant. The health benefits alone are priceless, not to include all the other benefits.

Sincerely yours,

Richard Tanner, Magistrate District Five